

Vol. 45—No. 14

June 5, 1954

Church of God Evangel



NOTICE

There has been a request for a period of three or four years for the Publishing House to print and sell to our churches, a pamphlet that would give facts about the Church of God.

We, have, at this time, a little eight-page, two-color, and very attractive pamphlet entitled **FACTS ABOUT THE CHURCH OF GOD.**

Our Editorial and Publications Board authorized that we print this little pamphlet and sell it to our churches at cost, so that they could have the material to put into the hands of those interested.

Prices of this pamphlet are as follows: 500 . . . \$3.50; 1,000 . . . \$7.00, postpaid. Every church should have at least 300 of these to give to all parties concerned.

Order from the Church of God Publishing House and, when ordering, state that you want **FACTS ABOUT THE CHURCH OF GOD**, and you shall receive prompt attention.

CORRECTION

In the last issue of the Macedonian Call, it was stated that the State of Ohio was assuming the responsibility of building the administration building of our Bible School in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, and that this project represented an outlay of approximately \$2,500. This figure should have read \$4,000. This effort on the part of the youth of Ohio is certainly complimentary, and the accomplishment will enhance their reward for these excellent services.—Executive Missions Secretary.

SPECIAL NOTICES

The Florida camp meeting will convene June 8 through June 17 at Wimauma, Florida. Reverend James L. Slay will be the speaker.

The New Jersey camp meeting will convene June 7 through June 13 at Bridgeton, New Jersey. Rev. John C. Jernigan, Rev. E. J. Reynolds, and Rev. Hubert Norris will be the speakers.

The Colorado-Utah camp meeting will convene at Grand Junction, Colorado, June 7 through June 13. Reverend James A. Cross will be the speaker.

The Kansas Camp Meeting will convene June 7 through June 13 at Cherryville, Kansas. The Youth Camp will be June 24 through June 29. C. R. Spain will be the speaker for the camp meeting.

NEW MISSION BOOKS

1. GREAT OAKS FROM LITTLE ACORNS GROW. A new book just off the press, priced at only 50 cents. This is the life story of Johnnie M. Owens, written by Evangelist Nellie Myers. This book is filled with the experiences of the orphan boy who met God. Every church should have a copy in its library, especially for the young people.

2. SOUTH OF THE RIO BRAVO—Revised Edition. 50 cents per copy. This book on foreign missions brings to you an up-to-date picture of the work of the Church of God in the Latin-American countries.

3. IN THE MORNING, SOW. 50 cents a copy. Another new book which is most intriguing. Written by Alice Pullin, this book shows the working of God's Spirit among the natives of Guatemala, from the days of Truman Furman to the present.

4. THE HAND OF GOD AND THE GESTAPO. 25 cents a copy. The story of Herman Lauster's imprisonment in Germany.

BROCHURES on Church of God Missions in the Bahamas, Guatemala, Haiti, India, Puerto Rico, and Tunisia. These brochures are sent free for the asking.

CHURCH OF GOD FOREIGN MISSIONS
1080 Montgomery Ave., Cleveland, Tennessee

Church of God Evangel

Official organ of the Church of God
CHARLES W. CONN, Editor-in-Chief

Published Weekly by
The Church of God Publishing House
Cleveland, Tennessee—Phone 2096
CECIL BRIDGES, Business Manager

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DECLARATION OF FAITH

WE BELIEVE

1. In the verbal inspiration of the Bible.
2. In one God eternally existing in three persons; namely, the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
3. That Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of the Father, conceived of the Holy Ghost, and born of the Virgin Mary. That Jesus was crucified, buried, and raised from the dead; that He ascended to heaven and is today at the right hand of the Father as the Intercessor.
4. That all have sinned and come short of the glory of God, and that repentance is commanded of God for all and necessary for forgiveness of sins.
5. That justification, regeneration, and the new birth are wrought by faith in the blood of Jesus Christ.
6. In sanctification subsequent to the new birth, through faith in the blood of Christ; through the Word, and by the Holy Ghost.
7. Holiness to be God's standard of living for His people.
8. In the baptism of the Holy Ghost subsequent to a clean heart.
9. In speaking with other tongues as the Spirit gives utterance, and that it is the initial evidence of the baptism of the Holy Ghost.
10. In water baptism by immersion, and all who repent should be baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.
11. Divine healing is provided for all in the atonement.
12. In the Lord's Supper; and washing of the saints' feet.
13. In the premillennial second coming of Jesus. First, to resurrect the righteous dead and to catch away the living saints to Him in the air. Second, to reign on the earth a thousand years.
14. In the bodily resurrection; eternal life for the righteous and eternal punishment for the wicked.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Single Subscription, per year \$1.50
Single Copy05
Entered as second-class matter under act of March 3, 1879, at

Cleveland, Tennessee. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in section 1103, act of October 3, 1917. Authorized August 23, 1918.

COVER PICTURE

By Garnett

SPECIAL NOTICE

The books for the Church of God Publishing House close on June 30. In order to have our books up-to-date and in good condition, we should have all remittances sent in before June 30. Please make arrangements to have your account with the Publishing House paid up in full, if possible, before that date.—Cecil Bridges, Business Manager.

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THE POWER OF REDEMPTION

By
WILLIAM H. PRATT
Pastor, Church of God
Minot, North Dakota

"... For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil," 1 John 3:8c.

CHRIST CAME TO DESTROY, to dissolve, and to unloose the devil's works—sin, sickness, and death. These three works, with perhaps minor exceptions, make up the satanic arsenal, with the human race as the prey; but "there's power in the blood." We have hope, because Christ is the stronger, since the Word says, "Greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world," 1 John 4:4b. The Scriptures clearly reveal that Jesus has undone sin, sickness, and death for the individual who can believe.

SIN ABOLISHED

Sin is Satan's most powerful weapon. The first part of our text, which is not quoted, states that the devil sinned from the beginning. In other words, he sinned from the beginning of sin. With this means our enemy effected the downfall of man.

We find that through Satan "sin entered into the world," and "all have sinned," Romans 5:12. However valid this tragedy may be, the truth of the contrary is superior. "For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous," Romans 5:19.

Paul informs us, "That our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed," Romans 6:6. The word "destroyed" means to abolish, to do away, or to vanish. If slavery in the United States has been abolished, then the system has been done away. If one work of the devil is sin and if our Lord came to destroy that work, then, thank God, man can be emancipated from "the body of sin." The text restated, "For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil."

SICKNESS BANISHED

When sin entered into the world, the result was oppression for the entire creation. "For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now," Romans 8:22.

Whether directly or indirectly, sickness is a work of Satan. As a consequence of sin, our physical bodies become mortal and corruptible, and thereby become susceptible to disease, but we have the assurance of deliverance in Matthew 8:16, 17, "When the even was come, they brought unto him many that were possessed with devils: and he cast out the spirits with his word, and healed all that were sick: That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses."

Our liberation from sickness was provided in the atone-

ment. Christ made a close association between sin and sickness in Mark 2:9, "Whether is it easier to say to the sick of the palsy, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, and take up thy bed and walk?" In fact, while He was on earth, Christ "went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil..." Acts 10:38b.

Jesus said, "All power is given unto me in heaven and earth... and, lo, I am with you alway..." Matthew 28:18, 20b. Our Lord invested authority in the Twelve in Luke 9:1, "Then he called his twelve disciples together, and gave them power and authority over all devils, and to cure diseases." He, likewise, told the Seventy, "Behold, I give unto you power... over all the power of the enemy..." Luke 10:19. In Mark 16:18b, just before Christ ascended, He gave a final commission to all believers—"They shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover." Again, we see that through our Redeemer a work of the devil has been destroyed.

DEATH CONQUERED

As sickness is a result of sin, so death is derived from sin, too. "Sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for all have sinned," Romans 5:12. Because of the sin of one, all must die. If man did not have a Saviour, death would be just a plunge into nothingness. Let us again thank God for Christ, who came to loosen the chains of death. "For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ," Romans 5:17.

If a man is covered with the *blood* and walks according to the commandments of Christ, he can feel confident that even though "sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord," Romans 5:21.

In the fifteenth chapter of 1 Corinthians, the resurrection chapter of the Bible, Paul tells us very definitely that "we shall not all sleep, but we shall be changed... the dead shall be raised incorruptible... then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory... But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

THROUGH CHRIST

The evidence is conclusive that sin, sickness, and death are works of Satan. These works are powerful afflictions thrust upon the human race by the downfall of the one man, Adam, but we are liberated through Christ, who has destroyed these satanic works; and "we are more than conquerors through him that loved us."

"... For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil."

Saved and Healed Through the Atonement

By G. W. TEEMS

Text: Isaiah 53:5, "But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed."



HE SUFFERINGS of Christ were for a twofold purpose. He was wounded, bruised, and crucified for our sins. He was striped with a Roman scourge for the healing of our bodies in the atonement. We find deliverance from sin and healing for sick bodies during His ministry on earth, because He healed the sick and saved the lost. Christ is all-sufficient for soul and body. John the Baptist, the forerunner of our Lord, preached repentance, but nothing was said of healing for the body. Christ came preaching repentance and divine healing. He was to suffer for the salvation of souls and healing of afflicted bodies.

Luke 4:18, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised."

The Lord was now ready to begin His ministry. The burden of His message was for the poor, the brokenhearted, the captives, the blind, and those who were sick and bruised. He was ever ready to bless those who were oppressed, spiritually or physically.

Jesus healed Peter's mother-in-law of a fever. Luke 4:39, "And he stood over her, and rebuked the fever; and it left her: and immediately she arose and ministered unto them."

Luke 4:40, "Now when the sun was setting, all they that had any sick with divers diseases brought them unto him; and he laid his hands on every one of them, and healed them."

When He healed Simon's mother-in-law, in His early ministry, His fame went out. Many sick were brought to Him, and He healed them all—not just a select few, but every one who came.

Matthew 4:17, "From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." This scripture signifies that repentance was in the beginning of His ministry. He began by saying, "Repent." During all of His ministry, He emphasized the importance of repentance. He forgave sin, but always after repentance. He saved all kinds of sinners—the wealthy, the businessman, the common man like Peter and John, the downcast like the woman who had been caught in adultery, the hopeless like the lepers, the Legion, and other such unfortunate, sin-stricken people—to make it clear that our healing and redemption from sin are provided for in the atonement.

When Christ came, He preached divine healing and forgiveness of sins. Isaiah's prophecy was fulfilled and was proved to be genuine by many who accepted Christ as their Saviour and Healer. 1 Peter 2:24, "Who his own

self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed." On the cross He atoned for sin. His body suffered and bled for our redemption. Our healing by His stripes is again testified to by Peter. He also suffered that men may be healed.

To accept forgiveness of our sins through His sufferings and then deny divine healing means to ignore His sufferings. David said for us not to forget all His benefits, or, in other words, remember them all. The two just benefits he mentioned are forgiveness and healing. These go together. In Mark 46:15 we find that Christ said unto the apostles: "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." Those who believe by hearing the gospel will be saved. Man's highest purpose of salvation is preaching the gospel. Second is healing for the sick. The Scripture says signs shall follow believers and they shall lay hands on the sick and they shall recover. They shall also take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them. Divine healing is one of the signs Christ said would follow the believer.

AFTER THE LORD had spoken to the apostles, He was received up into heaven and sat on the right hand of God. The apostles tarried at Jerusalem until they were filled with the Holy Ghost; then they went everywhere preaching the gospel. The people spoke in tongues, cast out devils, and the sick were healed. Some of the fire signs were never made prominent in the Church, but divine healing accompanied the gospel wherever it was preached. Where the gospel is preached with power, men are saved and healed. Both accompanied the gospel at Pentecost after the outpouring of the Holy Ghost. Men were wrought upon mightily by the Spirit to preach. Great throngs were saved, signs and wonders followed, and great fear came upon every soul.

Many were healed by the apostles—the man at the beautiful gate and others. When Philip preached Christ, the people gave heed, and a mighty revival swept through the city. Great multitudes were saved and baptized with the Holy Ghost. Many miracles were performed; devils were cast out; the palsies were healed; the lame were made to walk. The same gospel preached with the same power will produce the same results today.

Acts 14:8-10, "And there sat a certain man at Lystra, impotent in his feet, being a cripple from his mother's womb, who never had walked: The same heard Paul speak: who stedfastly beholding him, and perceiving that he had faith to be healed, Said with a loud voice, Stand upright on thy feet. And he leaped and walked." The Word inspired his faith and the man yielded himself to God and became obedient to the gospel. Paul demanded him to stand up on his feet; he obeyed and was healed.

James 5:13-15, "Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms. Is any sick

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God's Plan ...

Past,

Present,

Future

By EDITH COLEMAN

GOD MADE MAN to have dominion over all the things of the earth—the fish, the fowl, and all animals. He was to replenish the earth and subdue it. Then, God planted a garden and placed man in it to tend it. When we think of God's planting a garden, it makes us realize that He is much like man—after all, man was created in His image—but we go back to the great supernatural power of God when we remember that He planted a tree in the garden which was a tree of life. He planted, also, a tree which was a tree of the knowledge of good and evil. We can't understand how just eating of the fruit of a tree would give us life for always or how eating the fruit of a tree would open our minds to knowledge of good and evil. Neither do we understand how Jesus could say to a man, "Stretch forth thine hand," and when the withered hand was stretched forth, it would be made whole and look as normal as the other hand. That is the supernatural part of God's power.

God placed man on earth for a purpose. He had a plan—but man, in his willful way, brought sin into his heart and life and became separated from God. God is good. The Word continually tells of His goodness; all that He made was good. He loves holiness, righteousness, and all that is good. He frowns upon sin and all it entails. Because man continued in sin, he finally became so abominable in God's sight that God decided to destroy him and all else He had made from the earth. When we continue in sin, we become more and more entangled with Satan's yoke of bondage. We don't have any right to be self-righteous about anything or to boast, "Well, I never will do this thing or that thing." (I made the statement that I would never smoke and that it looked terrible for a woman to smoke, but since I was serving my father, the devil, I smoked sixteen years, and only the blood of Jesus covering my sins gave me deliverance from the nicotine habit.)

Because God is just, a man who walked upright found grace in His sight, and he and his family were spared. They didn't just accidentally survive; God presented His plan of a way to survive. Noah built the ark according to God's plan. If we survive and make heaven, it will be because we accept God's plan.

All through Old Testament days God's prophets did not just stumble around working for God, but they worked according to God's plan, moving as God's Spirit led them. They continually warned people of tragedies, disasters, and punishments which would come if they did not obey God. Does not a God-called preacher have to do the same today? We should fervently and unwaveringly cry out against sin and warn people of the disaster to come if they fail to serve God. Too many preachers are trying to sugar-coat the Word today, because they are afraid they will frighten their congregations away if they preach hell-fire and brimstone. Jesus wasn't afraid to preach it (Mark 9:43-48).

John the Baptist did not just happen to come along preaching when he did. God planned that he was to be the forerunner or the one to introduce Jesus. His message of salvation was "Repent ye, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." What was Jesus' message when He came along after the Baptist? "Repent ye, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." Their messages were correlative.

Jesus didn't just happen to come to earth when He did. It was planned that way. He came at the time God planned for Him to come. The world needed salvation. It needed something it could put its faith in, something it could bind its hopes to, something to lift it out of the darkness and despair that was crowding it, and something which would plunge it into the bright and shining light of eternal salvation through God's own Son. Jesus came at the appointed time!

Jesus wasn't betrayed only by Judas, but by many. There were many occasions when the people wanted to take Him, but He knew when His time had come that He should be offered up as a sacrifice. It was not just fate—it was God's plan. He was taken after the observance of the Passover, because fifty days after the Passover people from many countries were gathered in Jerusalem for the Feast of Pentecost. It was God's plan to send the Holy Ghost at this time so the news would be spread abroad. A few years prior to this time, John the Baptist had preached, "I indeed have baptized you with water; but he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost." Then Je-

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Does Satan Have You HOLDING THE BAG?

EARL T. GOLDEN, Pastor, Coffeyville, Kansas

TEXTS:

John 12:6, "This he said, not that he cared for the poor; but because HE was a thief, and HAD THE BAG, and bare what was put therein."

John 13:29, "For some of them thought, because JUDAS HAD THE BAG, that Jesus had said unto him, Buy those things that we have need of against the feast; or, that he should give something to the poor."

THE MODERN colloquial term "holding the bag" has become very common among us Americans. It is our way of saying we are left with nothing when we think we have something firmly within our grasp.

By way of illustration, we pay the bill, someone else reaps the benefits, and we are left with nothing to show for our time, expense, or effort. The crafty schemer talks us into what seems to be a quick harvest of rewards for seemingly little effort. It seems the American public will never learn that we must pay for what we receive and that in reality we do not receive something for nothing.

I wish to talk to you about the most adept schemer of all time. Today he literally has millions "holding the bag."

Satan is no novice at lying. The Bible calls him a liar and the father of it. Nearly six thousand years ago he entered the Garden of Eden and literally talked Adam and Eve out of a heaven on earth. Today we would say he left them "holding the bag."

Think of the multiplied millions that have followed the tragic example of our foreparents. The man who is the subject of our text is Judas Iscariot, the man who became the infamous dupe for his part in the betrayal of Jesus. Although the bag in question was a literal moneybag with no special significance attached to it the things it represents and signifies will never fade from human memory.

Judas was not only holding the bag materially and physically, but more deeply spiritually. Through Satan's beguiling subtlety, he had driven a hard bargain with Judas. Like millions today, Judas could only hear the jingle of the silver and the flash of new coins before his eyes. The splendor of the present had dulled his senses to the horrible realities of the future.

Satan's master strategy is proceeding according to schedule. The chief priests meet. Both agree on the price—thirty pieces of silver! Now we see Judas on his way to the Garden of Gethsemane, leading the howling mob. The Saviour arises and is met by Judas and receives the most poisonous kiss in history. Poison because it contained the full measure of satanic deceit and subtlety. The Master is taken and led away. Now Judas can relax, or can he? He has finished his part of the bloody bargain. Jesus has been sold! But the words of the Master, "Friend, wherefore art thou come?" burn in his memory. They haunt him as he turns them over in his mind. The bloodhounds

of conscience have him bayed, and now for the first time he realizes that the vision of splendor painted by Satan was a mirage of a deluded mind and in reality he has been left "holding the bag."

What can he do? What will he do? A trip to the high priest. A proposal to return the silver. All to no avail! He casts the silver on the Temple floor and hastens away. Hounded by the devilish sneers of a devil that had duped him and punished by the lingering look of the Master in Gethsemane, he makes his way to the outskirts of Jerusalem and soon is found swinging dead on a rocky ledge. A victim of his own hands; a first century suicide by hanging. Thus ends the historical account of a man that Satan left "holding the bag."

HOW OFTEN TODAY we cross the paths of those who are "holding the bag" for Satan—some even willingly and perhaps enthusiastically, believing the archliar and thinking the things he has promised will be forthcoming.

Although God is a God of today, Satan is a master at painting bright tomorrows. Tomorrows that will never be nearer than they now appear.

Satan promises easy wealth but, alas! the dying rich man finds out that there is no pocket in a shroud. Gold is not needed in heaven and will not last in hell. The person who has sold his soul to Satan for the lust of money will truly find out at death that he is clutching an empty bag.

I can envision the rich man in St. Luke, chapter 12, as he gleefully counts his money, takes inventory of his real estate, admires his bumper crops, and comes to the conclusion that easy life at last has become a reality for him. However, I see a startled look cross his brow and his lips whiten and quiver as a heavenly voice announces, "Tonight thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall these things be which thou hast provided?"

Satan promises pleasure. I see America as a nation that is pleasure-made and hell-bent. Anything for another thrill, another laugh, another exciting moment. Holy Writ declares, "the pleasures of sin are for a season. Temporary and transitory; they cannot last or satisfy. As salt calls for water, every sin calls for another sin; with it promising satisfaction but always providing a yearning that can never be filled."

Man is a spiritual being. Meats, drinks, and sinful pleasures can only pamper and entertain the natural but never satisfy the spiritual.

There is only one place that every longing of man can be met. It is found in St. Luke 23:33b, "the place, which is called Calvary." This world needs to be led away—away from its mad but vain search for satisfaction, away to an old rugged hillside and get a view of a Man dying on a

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He Will Keep You

By BESS IRVIN

Jude 24, "Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy."

IN THESE DAYS of swift change and catastrophic events, the eyes of thoughtful men turn from the present to the unknown future. What does it hold for you, your families, your friends, and your world? People of today look fearfully into the future and try to solve its mysteries, but apart from God, the effort is futile. Our vision is unable to pierce the darkness that cloaks tomorrow. Jesus realizes all this and presents us with the assurance that "He will keep us from falling." Only as we learn to put our trust in God, as taught in the Bible, can we face the future unafraid.

Long ago the Psalmist wrote: "Thou shalt guide me with thy counsel and afterward receive me to glory." While in prison awaiting martyrdom, fearlessly and confidently the apostle Paul exclaimed triumphantly, "I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day." Praise the Lord! Paul believed and knew that his God would take care of things for him. So may each of us have faith and confidence in our Saviour that what He does in our lives is for our good. We must not question God. His ways are so much higher than ours. Through prayer, a systematic study of the Word of God, and consistent Christian living, it is easier to believe that He will keep us.

Mary E. Harrison Green wrote a wonderful article which appeared in the *Lighted Pathway* "May My Life Be a Light." In it she gave an illustration of great benefit to me. There was an individual who wanted to "get out and work for the Lord." He mentioned this desire to his pastor, who in turn suggested that he give efficient performance on his job and then, when necessary, to help the other employees finish their work, always keeping in mind to let his light shine around those he contacted. Since there are many precious young people where I am

employed, a great heaviness has rested upon my heart to trust more in this Jesus Christ and His wonderful grace that is able to keep one from falling and to present him faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy.

Jesus' Word is solid, steadfast, and sure. If He says He will do a thing, you can rest assured He will carry out His promise to the very letter. His promises are all that we need to lead us on, victor over all obstacles, to that "Home sweet Home."

IN LUKE 22:31, 32 we read, "And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren." The Lord did not say for one to push his brother down and laugh at him. He said to strengthen one's brethren. Today we are surrounded by hundreds of helpless men, women, and children. Some are downcast in spirit, suffering in pain; many are going through a spiritual or physical famine. With a prayer in our hearts for their deliverance, God help us to look from our own selfish, egotistical aims to the poverty-stricken, fatherless and motherless all over the world. When we do this, we may confront strange new forces, treacherous tides, and innumerable hidden dangers to our own life and happiness. Ah, but wait! There is one great certainty—"He will keep you." Why? Because He said He would!

IN HIS STEPS

"The road is too rough," I said.

"Dear Lord,

There are stones that hurt me so."

And He said, "Dear child, I understand;

I walked it long ago."

"But there's a cool, green path," I said.

"Let me walk there for a time."

"No, child," He gently answered me;

"The green road does not climb."

"My burden," I said, "is far too great;

How can I bear it so?"

"My child," said He, "I remember its weight—

I carried my cross, you know."

"But," I said, "I wish there were friends with me,

Who would make my way their own."

"Ah! yes," He said, "Gethsemane was hard to face alone."

And so I climbed the stony path,

Content at last to know

That where my Master had not gone,

I would not need to go.

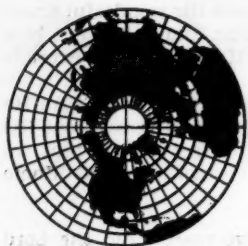
And, strangely, then I found new friends;

The burden grew less sore

As I remembered, long ago

He went that way before.

—Leona Bays Gater



World Tour ...

Part 9: Sicily — Rome

By WADE H. HORTON, Foreign Field Representative

THE ISLAND of Sicily, which is a part of Italy, lies just off the southern coast of the mainland and is a comparatively new field for the Church of God. It is a beautiful country, with many good-sized towns and cities. One of the largest and best is Messina (where our superintendent lives), which has a population of about 175,000. Though this country has been overwhelmingly Catholic for centuries, some of the Sicilians are breaking away to accept the full-gospel message and the future prospects seem brighter than ever before. If we can continue to enjoy freedom of worship and freedom to propagate the Pentecostal doctrine, there is a possibility that it will become one of our better mission fields. The credit, in the main, will certainly be due Rev. and Mrs. Lorenzo Sottosanti, for they are wholeheartedly and tirelessly working for the Church of God. Brother Sottosanti was sent here approximately two years ago to start a work and he already claims for the Church several hundred adherents. He is a very talented and versatile man, which adds to his effectiveness and influence among the people. The ten days spent with him and the saints in Sicily will long be remembered. No one has ever been entertained in a more hospitable manner, for it seemed they went to the extreme in making my stay pleasant.

Brother and Sister Sottosanti could not speak English and, of course, I could not speak Italian, so we had some difficulty in communicating understandable thoughts to each other. He speaks Spanish fluently, and I know probably thirty or forty words, so we mixed Spanish, English, and Italian in the conversation pot and out came, at least, some little understanding. We talked with our hands, pen and paper, *Evangelists*, Bibles, pictures, calendars, and many other things, along with the different languages. To illustrate the problem, here is what happened one day while there: They asked me one day what I would like to eat. I made a sign that I wanted an egg by putting the ends of my thumb and forefinger together, making a small circle. They said, "Si Si," and the girl ran into the kitchen and brought back an apple. I shook my head and motioned that it was too large, so she went out and came in again with a tangerine. Again I shook my head no. They raised their hands and with a perplexed look on their faces said, "No compree, no compree," which meant they did not understand. Finally, in desperation, I threw back my head and crowed like a rooster. They clapped their hands and laughingly said, "Ah hhhh! Si Si," wagging their heads from side to side, knowingly. Brother Sottosanti and another brother began putting on their overcoats and I had a feeling that they had not yet understood me, so by going through a lot of motions, it was discovered that they were going out to buy me a rooster. I said, "No, no, not that." "Yes, we do not mind,"

they motioned. But by continually showing them how small the thing I wanted was and how large a rooster was, the girl ran into the kitchen and brought—yes—an egg. Believe me, we sure had a laugh. This was the general topic of conversation for the next few days. An interpreter came each afternoon to help us in discussing the work and would go in the evenings to interpret the sermons. The services were very good. God's presence was real in each one. It was a pleasure to preach to these precious people and it is my hope some day to return. May God bless the superintendent, the members, and friends of the Church of God in Sicily.

ROME

Rome—a holiness preacher in Rome, the capital of Catholicism. Rome, which is sometimes called the Eternal City, could more rightly be called another name that rhymes with eternal. Rome of antiquity or Rome of modern time, she is ever the same. Her profligacy and licentiousness continues to shock the clean-minded and pure-hearted even in this our day. The ancient city of intolerance, bigotry, and infamous insults towards real Christianity, yesterday, and today, and forever. She is guilty of the death of more men than Moscow's malicious machine has ever massacred. In the glory, glamour, and grandeur of her heyday she was admired, feared, and hated. The Rome of yesteryear, under Nero and Domitian, persecuted and killed Christians by the multiplied thousands. It is said that Nero tried to throw on the Christians the blame for some of his own nefarious deeds. As I stood in the ruins of the old Colosseum, which still stands as a memorial to the early nameless saints, a buoyant uplift of spirit swept over me as I meditated on the sacrifices so bravely and uncompromisingly made in the name of Jesus Christ. But I shuddered to think that while the Christians were exposed to wild beasts to be torn, mangled, and finally killed, it was for the gratification of a smirking and sinfully-drunk audience of Christ-rejecting and Christ-hating men and women. It is said "while they witnessed these awful sights they were sprinkled with perfumed water which was conveyed about the building in secret pipes." Some day these, and all people like them, will be sprinkled, not with rose water perfume, but red-hot fire from the presence of an avenging God. He never fails to avenge His faithful, though it sometimes seems so. He has not forgotten, and some day they will be confronted with the record of their heartless and demon-inspired deeds.

Rome is still in the same business today, but at a new stand and wearing a different colored cloak. The early persecutors operated openly and boldly as anti-Christian. Today the same business is carried on under the title of

pro-Christianity. But in recent years, yea, even recent months, her system has harassed, tormented, and killed a great number of Christians, torn down church buildings, and committed crimes almost unthinkable and unbelievable. They are too numerous to mention here, but the facts may be obtained from almost any mission department. The Vatican is responsible for all this atrocity. The power of the Pope is unlimited among Catholics. His authority is never questioned by them. If he wanted to stop this inhuman treatment of Protestants, he could easily do it. Let no one be deceived on this point. It is a reckless, radical, and ruthless movement that has for its hoped-for culmination domination of all nations and world-wide church control. While many professing Protestants languish in luxurious living, this machine of malice continually grinds out propaganda with the aim in mind to stamp out real religion's resistance and take full control of the remains. This system has no principles, ethics, or scruples. Everything that gets in its way must be stamped out. Many honest-hearted and God-fearing Catholics deplore this situation but are as helpless as we are to do anything about it. We can only ask our God to intervene and obstruct their wicked intentions and forgive them, for they know not what they do.

The day I visited one of Rome's most celebrated churches was an experience that will be indelibly printed upon my memory to be remembered for many years to come. Upon entering the large courtyard of St. Paul's Cathedral, the first thing that greets the eye is an imposing statue of the great apostle himself. He stands with a sword in his hands, which is a portrayal of him as a defender of their faith. What irony and what audacity to display this, perhaps, greatest of all Pentecostal preachers as a defender of the Catholic religion! Walking past him, you go into a very large unlighted church that has no pews. You soon become accustomed to the semi-darkness and begin to notice the splendor and splash of the many decorations. The high ceiling is wrought with pure gold—gold bought with pennies and pesos pilfered from poor, duped people under the most heinous hoax ever hatched up by professing Christianity. It has sixty very large limestone columns in it. Their equivalent in finance would probably build sixty small churches. Near the top of the walls are marble pictures of the 260 popes from Peter (?) down to the present day. What a volume could be written about the escapades of some of these priests! Before arriving at the altar, where burning candles and other idols are much in evidence, you pass two giant statues of Peter and Paul. These great men died for the faith, but, thank God, their invincible spirits live on in the memories, testimonies, and sermons of the faithful. A question suddenly flashes through your mind, "What would happen if these men would come back to life in our time?"

But first, let's stroll past the altar through the door behind it into another courtyard. Against the wall in one corner is a souvenir shop which is operated by a priest and two young men. They look dignified and pious enough, so you walk a little closer to look over their wares. But you receive a shock strong enough to end all shocks, for behold! the first item is "Old John Barley-corn" himself. WHAT? Whiskey sold in the church? Whiskey sold by priests? But wait, it is not as bad as you might think. Do not judge too quickly or too harshly. They made this whiskey themselves and just think, all the profit goes into the church treasury. You feel hot—

then cold—then nauseated—and then all feeling seems to flee, and you stand stunned and numbed at the effrontery of this desecration. Then another shock transforms you back into the realms of reality and you realize that you should not be surprised at anything being done in the name of religion in this agnostic age. You feel impelled to do something—either preach and pray, or denounce and overturn tables—but you persuade yourself that neither would be advisable under the circumstances, so with effort you get hold of yourself and walk away in disgust.

BUT SOME PROTESTANT CHURCHES ARE JUST ABOUT AS BAD. They have their social parties and recreational rooms in their church buildings, and in some instances dancing and gambling to balance the church budget. This is also a stench in the nostrils of God, for He has definitely declared, "My house shall be called a house of prayer." Powerless Pentecostalism has, perhaps, already made her start down the same road. In many cases they already have their supper rooms (upper rooms having gone with the worldly winds), clubs, and recreational activities. We must beware lest this creeping paralysis of substituting the material to make up for the lack of the spiritual strangle us, the Church of the living God, into submission to Satan's strategy. The church will never need to fill the appetite of the natural man as long as it can satisfy the need of his soul. Neither will it need to quench the natural thirst while the Fountain of Life flows unhindered. Bible-preaching preachers and Bible-believing believers can be perfectly and blissfully happy feeding on the Word of God and the promises contained therein.

With these thoughts filling your mind, you hurry out into the pure air, for it seems that the atmosphere inside is contaminated. During the walk back through the church, the thought comes racing into your mind again about Peter and Paul springing into life again. You have a feeling that they would do one of these two things—either start a house-cleaning revival, or do as you have done, walk away in indignation and disgust. But great as they were, they have had their day. **THE MANTLE OF RESPONSIBILITY HAS FALLEN UPON OUR SHOULDERS** and it is now up to us to take the torch they carried so valiantly and lift it higher and higher until there will never be an excuse for people not knowing the real truth of the real gospel. This is a day in which we need voices, clear and unmistakable, crying out against sin and idolatry. It is my constant prayer that the Church of God will not lose her voice of individuality and distinctiveness in the masses of earth's religious mixtures until she becomes, like many others, a "me-too parrot." Let her dare to be different, when it is a requisite to sticking to the Word of God. **THE MINISTER IS THE KEY. AS HE GOES, SO GOES THE CHURCH.** This is true in the homeland, and it is equally true on the mission fields. There should be no place for pantywaist and pusillanimous preachers in our Pentecostal pulpits today. We must have preachers who will preach to please God rather than watered-down, enticing, ear-tickling, men-pleasing oratory to pacify and pamper the personality-conscious people of this day. We need, in our time, many exact replicas of Peter and Paul to rise up and stir a lost world staggering on its last legs toward an endless hell: Men who will not compromise for prestige and popularity. Not gullible men yielding to the guile of Satan, but men who will be faithful to the full gospel. Men who will

not give spineless acquiescence to things that cripple conscience, even though by being different they are accused of offending others and opposing official opinion. Men who will not allow their minds to be run through machines of persuasion or pressure, but choose to have minds of their own, unhampered and unhitched. Men who will never submit to coercion, neither will they resort to subterfuge to avoid taking a stand for truth and right. Men who will not quibble over trifles or quarrel over personalities, knowing that both fade into insignificance when a vision of the whitened fields, ready for the reaping, is seen. Men who will take a stand before finding out which way the wind is blowing. Men not doing things for self-aggrandizement, but doing all for Him and Him alone. Men whose spirits can neither be broken nor bent. Men who had rather have the approval of God than the applause of men. Twice-born men who are not afraid to die, for they know that in dying they shall live and that eternally. Men not seeking places but the place. Men not pulling for higher positions, but praying for His sanction upon their present places. Men who know that no man, or men, can stop their march to the place God has chosen and destined they should fill. Men working for souls and not for silly smiles. Men laboring for a purpose and not longing for popular places and positions. Men whose abandonment of carnal selfishness has been made complete by an absolute, final, and an unconditional surrender to Calvary's crucified One. *Men who have learned that without Jesus Christ everything is nothing and that with Him nothing is everything.* Men filled with a passion and not with pomp and pride. Men who will preach what they believe and live what they preach. Men who are Christ-followers and not crowd-followers. Men who will preach if earthly payday never comes. Men who know that dollars missed below, because of obedience to God, will bring dividends above when the Books are balanced and God's payroll is prepared. Men who know that God's pay is sometimes slow, but continue to cry out against sin and wickedness, knowing that heaven's pay check will be heaped up and running over when it does come.

A ministry like this, backed up by a godly and prayerful membership, can make a cold world become cognizant of its presence and can rescue thousands of tired, weary souls from the enslavement of Satan into the arms of a loving Saviour. God grant that it shall be so soon, for the dark clouds of night are falling and the end of all things is at hand.

DOES SATAN HAVE YOU HOLDING THE BAG?

(Continued from page 6)

cross between two thieves. A Man who died and arose from the dead. A Man who ascended on high and shall descend to rule on earth. A Man who with one noble sentence furnished an answer to every human problem, a cure for every human ill, a hope for every human despair, when He cried out, "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly," St. John 10:10b.

Take Him at His Word and you can truly sing:

"He lives, He lives, Christ Jesus lives today.

He walks with me and talks with me,

Along life's narrow way. He lives, He lives,

Salvation to impart. You ask me how I know He lives,

HE LIVES WITHIN MY HEART."

SAVED AND HEALED THROUGH THE ATONEMENT

(Continued from page 4)

among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him." Jesus healed the leper, and in Matthew 8, the centurion's servant was healed. Jesus said that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet Esaias, saying, "Himself took our infirmities, and bore our sickness."

My friends, Jesus will heal you if you will trust Him. He is the same yesterday, and today, and forever. The gospel is the same, and God is the same. If we preachers and believers will be the same, men and women will be healed and saved, just as they were under the preaching of the apostles. As Peter walked the streets of Jerusalem, the power of God was upon him, and he began to preach, testify, and pray for the sick. People brought the sick in Jerusalem and they came in such crowds that Peter could not minister unto them. What did they do? The sick were put on the streets so the shadow of Peter could fall upon them—they were healed.

GOD'S PLAN—PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE

(Continued from page 5)

us preached, "For John truly baptized with water, but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost." This was God's plan.

God planned a way of salvation which could reach all men. He has planned the future of those who accept His plan and of those who reject His plan. Jesus died for all the sins that have ever been committed and for all that ever will be committed. He says, "He that cometh unto me, I will in no wise cast out." Acts 13:39 says, "And by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses." Jesus purchased our salvation—we must believe this and accept it.

If we reject God's plan, He has told us in Revelation 20:15, "Whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire." This is God's future plan. He is a just God; He is good. He has made His plans, and since He is God, He cannot fail. Just as Adam had a will of his own and chose sin in the garden of Eden, so we have a will of our own and can choose to continue in sin, or we can come to Jesus, accept forgiveness, follow Him through the Word, and win eternal life with Him.

It is all God's plan—but we must make our own choice. Which way do you choose?

IN THE LORD'S HOUSE

A family was driving along the highway one Sunday in a comfortable car, listening to a good sermon on the radio. They passed by a small country church where cars were parked, and they could tell that a service was going on. Someone in the car said, "I'm sure they are not hearing as fine a sermon as we are."

"No," said the father, "but they are getting something which we are not. They are in the Lord's house. They are having fellowship together, and they may be remembering Jesus as He asked them to do. We hope they are doing as the early Christians did (Acts 2:42). We are not."—Golden Moments.

45th General Assembly of the Church of God

Memphis, Tennessee, August 17 - 22, 1954



The Forty-fifth General Assembly of the Churches of God will convene in Memphis, Tennessee, August 17-22, 1954. The Ministers' Council begins Tuesday, August 17, at 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. From Wednesday through Saturday the Council will meet, 8:30 to 10 a.m. and 1:30 to 5 p.m. The General Assembly begins Tuesday, August 17, at 7 p.m., and continues through Sunday morning, August 22, with services daily at 10:30 a.m. and 7 p.m.

—Zeno C. Tharp, General Overseer.



religious news



CRIME PICTURE IN LOS ANGELES REVEALED

LOS ANGELES, California (EP) One of the unprettiest pictures of the year is that presented by the Los Angeles Police Department in its report on crime in Los Angeles. Crime in almost every category increased during 1953 as compared with 1952. Arrests increased also and at a greater rate than the crimes reported, testifying to the vigilance of the Police Department. 6.8 per cent more auto thefts, 22.9 per cent more burglaries, 16.7 per cent more aggravated assaults, 15.2 per cent more robberies, and 1.2 per cent more murders were committed in 1953 in Los Angeles than in 1952. Especially significant is the rise in juvenile arrests—robbery arrests involving juveniles showed an increase of 52.7 per cent and juveniles booked on narcotics charges increased 42.9 per cent.

EVANGELICAL PRESS MAPS PRESS MONTH OBSERVANCE

CHICAGO (EP) The Executive Board of the Evangelical Press Association met recently for its spring session at Chicago, making plans for its annual observance of Protestant Press Month during October of this year. The Association expects to furnish articles on the value and need of Christian publications in the homes of America, and will also feature a cartoon by a leading gospel cartoonist. Materials are furnished to all member publications of the EPA for their October issues. The use of these materials during the month of October brings a common emphasis on the need of Christian literature which is having its effect throughout the country.

The Board of EPA also began laying plans for the 1955 convention of the Association which is to take place in Chicago the last week of January. The Rev. J. Fred Parker, editor of the Nazarene Church youth publication, *Conquest*, is president of the organization.

NO RELATIONS WITH VATICAN PLANNED SAYS DULLES

WASHINGTON, D. C. (EP) Secretary of State John Foster Dulles said here there were no plans to resume relations between the United States and the Vatican. Mr. Dulles made the statement in answer to a question put to him at his weekly press conference.

He was asked: "Mr. Secretary, will you give us the Administration's position on relations with the Vatican? Are there any plans for setting up either direct or personal relations with the Holy See? Do you see values in such an association?" Mr. Dulles replied: "I know of no plans to alter the present situation."

In February, it was disclosed that Under Secretary of State Walter Bedell Smith had declared that he "personally" favored the re-establishment of "some kind of formal relations" with the Holy See. He called such a relationship "advantageous." General Smith stated his position in testimony before the House Appropriations Committee.

Presidents Roosevelt and Truman maintained a personal envoy to Pope Pius XII. The relationship ended when the envoy, Myron C. Taylor, resigned in January, 1950. President Truman's nomination of General Mark Clark to be U.S. Ambassador to the Vatican in January, 1952, aroused so much opposition that General Clark asked that his name be withdrawn.

U.S. SENATE APPROVES PRAYER ROOM

WASHINGTON, D. C. (EP) The Senate recently approved a resolution, already approved by the House, directing the architect of the Capitol "to make available a room, with facilities for prayer and meditation, for use of members" of Congress.

HORROR COMICS INVESTIGATED

NEW YORK (EP) Of the 80 million comic books sold in the U.S. and Canada every month, about a quarter are what the trade calls "horror comics." They deserve the title. Last week, in Manhattan, the comic book publishing center of the U.S., a three-man Senate Subcommittee on Juvenile Delinquency began an investigation to find out "the impact upon adolescents" of horror comic books. The committee never found out exactly what the impact was, but it did get some interesting testimonies on how comic books are distributed.

Up before the committee stepped William Richter, counsel for the Newsdealers Association of Greater New York, which represents more than 1,000 newsstands and stationery stores. Crime-and-horror comics, said Richter, are forced by the distributors on many newsstand dealers who do not want to sell them. They are often included in the same wired bundles with slick-paper magazines, even though they have not been ordered. If the

retailer returns an "unreasonable amount," said Richter, "he can be cut off completely" from his supply of fast-selling, popular magazines.

In defense of the crime books, Publisher (Entertaining Comics Group) William Gaines opposed any censorship on the ground that the publishers themselves are best qualified to decide what is "good taste." Tennessee's Democratic Senator, Estes Kefauver dryly asked whether Publisher Gaines considered "good taste" a comic book cover showing an ax-wielding man holding aloft the severed head of a blonde. Answered Gaines: "Yes, I do—for the cover of a horror comic. I think it would be in bad taste if the head were held a little higher so the neck would show with the blood dripping out." Said Senator Kefauver: "You've got blood dripping from the mouth."

Senator Kefauver went on to criticize the Child Study Association of America, after learning that three members of the group were on the payrolls of the comic book publishers. Charged Kefauver: "You have deceived the public . . . by putting out advice to parents with the principal research and writing done by people in the pay of publishers, and you do not divulge these facts."

COMMUNISTS FLOODING U.S. WITH DOPE

LOS ANGELES (EP) Communist efforts to weaken the United States include a program of shipping huge quantities of narcotics into this country through the ports of Los Angeles and San Francisco, Councilman Edward Roybal charged in a resolution he introduced before the City Council of Los Angeles.

The resolution, unanimously adopted, called upon Congress to provide additional Customs Bureau personnel, and asked the Chief of Police and the City Health Officer to recommend antinarcotic measures. Roybal said that a Customs Bureau official has estimated that his agency could stop only about 5 per cent of the narcotic shipments now arriving.

SPAIN SETS UP ANTI-PROTESTANT OFFICE

BARCELONA, Spain (EP) A secretariat for the Preservation of the Faith has been created in Barcelona, with the explicit directive to work for the repression of Protestant propaganda. The office was set up following a letter from the Catholic Bishop

which charged that proselyting activities of Protestants were "intense, tenacious, systematized, and provocative," that they were almost entirely illegal, and had been greatly intensified since the end of World War II. "It is one thing," the Bishop said, "for us Catholics to refrain from molesting Protestants on account of their beliefs, but it is another matter when they molest Catholics with the object of separating them from the church."

FLYING MISSIONARY AIDS IN ARTIC RESCUE

FAIRBANKS, Alaska (EP) The Rev. William Wartes, a flying missionary, sighted three missing men and their ice-grounded plane on the frozen Arctic Ocean and radioed the word that led to their rescue by another airman, it was learned recently.

The plane had been missing for one day on a flight from Barrow to Umiat, in the Naval Oil Reserve. The rescued men were identified at Fairbanks as Lt. Edward Hallock, Airman 1 C Tom Finnan, and Airman 1 C Ed Peek, all of Ladd Air Force Base.

PENTECOSTAL EXPELLED FROM SPAIN

MADRID, Spain (EP) The Rev. Niels Erik Forsberg, a Swedish Pentecostal missionary, has been expelled from Spain by government authorities, Protestant officials here reported. Mr. Forsberg, who had been in Spain for more than a year, left the country following the expulsion order, the sources said.

47 PER CENT OF ADULTS REPORT CHURCHGOING

PRINCETON, N. J. (EP) On a typical Sunday in late winter, a little less than half—roughly 47,000,000—of the nation's adults can be found in church. In a survey recently completed in a typical sample of the nation's adults, 47 per cent said they had been to church during the week preceding the interview. Today's figure represents a sizable increase over an American Institute of Public Opinion report in April, 1950, which showed 38 per cent of the adults saying they had gone to church during the seven days preceding the interview.

With the adult population today at 100,000,000 (compared to 96,000,000 four years ago) this means roughly that there are 10,000,000 more people in church on a typical Sunday than in 1950. This may be a reflection of the renewal of religious interest in America which many attribute to the example set by President Eisenhower, a regular churchgoer. Interviewing was completed during the first week of March. Here are the results by religious affiliation:

	Per Cent Attended	Per Cent Did Not Attend
Protestant	40	60
Catholic	72	28

Church attendance increases, the survey finds, after people reach the age of 30. The proportion of those between 21 and 29 who went to church during the period covered by the sur-

vey was 43 per cent as compared with 48 per cent between the ages of 30 and 49, and 49 per cent who are 50 and over. By areas of the country, the highest percentage of churchgoers is found in the East, where a majority of 52 per cent said they had been to church during the past seven days.

RUSSIAN YOUTH "BACKSLIDING" INTO CHURCHES

MOSCOW, Russia (EP) Young Communists in the Soviet Union are backsliding into religion often enough for **Komsomol Pravda**, organ of the Communist Youth League, to devote a couple of articles a month to the problem. The paper uses these incidents to call for an intensified drive against religion, and what it calls "prejudices and superstitions."

It notes that Komsomol (Communist Youth League) congresses in various republics of the U.S.S.R. in periods devoted to criticism and self-criticism, have devoted considerable time to members accused of coming under the influence of religious "cults." It was found that some youths even were acting as acolytes for priests.

GRAHAM REJECTS MILLION-DOLLAR CONTRACT

(EP) It is reported that the National Broadcasting Company offered to make Evangelist Billy Graham a sort of "NBC Arthur Godfrey," but he refused. According to **Eternity**, the offer involved a daily TV program. It would have permitted the evangelist to give a moral or spiritual message at the close. Furthermore, it would have left him free to continue his evangelistic campaigns.

But on the eve of his departure for a campaign in Britain, the evangelist turned the offer down. Graham would not comment on the financial arrangements, but it was strongly rumored that he had refused a million-dollar contract because his "first call is to preach the gospel."

NOTES FROM THE NEWS

The head of Detroit's police censor bureau gave this testimony, "There has not been a sex murder in the history of the Detroit Police Department in which the killer was not an avid reader of lewd books and magazines."

Thomas S. Kepler in his recent book "A Spiritual Journey with Paul" states that while Protestant Christians the world over were putting \$30,000,000 into their world missionary envelopes during a twelve-month period, 625,000 people in 24 days laid down \$57,760,942 on the horses at Belmont, Long Island, race track.

The publicity concerning the harmful effects of smoking is having some effect, according to **Time**. An advertising trade magazine has polled 2,200 United States advertising and marketing executives. Of almost 1,500 who smoke, 35 per cent have cut down on their smoking, and 23 per cent have stopped smoking altogether.



SADLER

Sister Edith W. Sadler, of 2817 Boston Avenue, San Diego, Calif., passed away April 8, 1954. Born September 30, 1903, in Kentucky, she had been a faithful member of the Church of God for 20 years. She is survived by her husband, Leonard H. Sadler, and 2 children. The funeral services were conducted at Johnson-Saum and Knobel Chapel in San Diego.—Joseph D. Duffell, Pastor.

HIBBARD

Another Christian warrior has won her battle and gone home to be with Jesus. Sister Bertha Hensley Hibbard passed away April 5, 1954. The wife of Rev. J. B. Hibbard, she was a member of the Church of God for nearly 20 years and was faithful and kind to everyone. She was widely known throughout the Church of God and was loved by all that knew her. She leaves to mourn her passing a heartbroken family and husband.

Jackie Phillips, son of Mr. and Mrs. Watson Phillips, was drowned May 3, 1954, in a lake near West Georgia College. He was a member of the Sunday School Class at the Carrollton Church of God that recently won the contest and the trip to the Church of God Orphanage. Funeral services were held May 5. Rev. J. R. Whitley officiated.—Mrs. David Harlin.

BRADY

J. S. Brady, a member of the Church of God in Waycross, Georgia, died January 24, 1954. The funeral was conducted by his pastor, Rev. Cecil Wheeler.

BROWN

Mrs. W. F. Brown, Sr., departed this life April 28, 1954. She was a faithful member of the Church of God in Waycross, Georgia. She was one of the charter members. She left behind many friends. The funeral was conducted at the church by her pastor, Rev. Cecil Wheeler.—Reporter.

CARR

Rev. Cardell H. Carr was killed instantly on April 23, 1954. He had been an ordained minister in the Church of God, and at the time of his death was working faithfully as a member of the Peru, Indiana, Church of God. Brother Carr pastored churches in Tennessee for a number of years. He was born at Silver Point, Tennessee, December 27, 1906. Surviving are 8 children and his wife, Mrs. Ruby Carr. The funeral was conducted by Rev. Vernon Harrison and his pastor, Rev. R. P. Danley.

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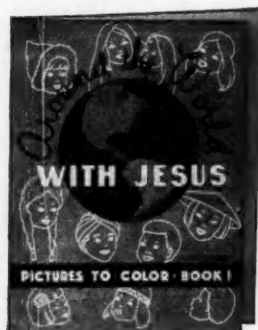
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REPORTS *and* REVIVALS

THE CHURCH OF GOD AT GREENSBURG, INDIANA



Above is the picture of the home coming of the Church of God at Greensburg, Indiana. The church started with twelve members. They have moved to a new location in the city, 219 East Main Street. The church is furnished with nice seats. Our good pastor, Rev. Perry Riley, and his wife have done a wonderful work and are blessing many souls. We are planning to build a new church in the near future.—E. C. Minton, Sunday School Teacher.

Monroe, La., District Convention

"Marvelous the story, so full of glory" would be a good account of the Monroe District convention, which convened at the Monroe church May 7, 8. From the first strands of "It Won't Be Long," our first choir song, to the last "amen," the Lord was with us. With a hearty welcome by Brother T. M. McClendon, the host pastor, and a ready response from Brother J. P. Nolan, our district overseer, everyone knew the convention was off to a good start. Stirring the hearts, souls, and minds of the large congregation Friday night was the great message delivered by Brother Thomas Shoemaker, in which he so forcibly gave the three essential factors of "receiving and KEEPING salvation."

On Saturday night, each pastor gave a report of great spiritual and financial progress in his church during the past year. Under the direction of Sister Y. W. Kidd, our state L.W.W.B. president, the pastors' wives gave reports of the work in their L.W.W.B.'s.

To climax the convention, Brother Y. W. Kidd, our state overseer, delivered a stirring message on "The Blood of Jesus." Every heart was melted by this great message, after which a very unique altar call was given and a mission offering received. As people made their way to the altar, they stopped to lay their offering on a table. God wonderfully blessed saints and sinners as they knelt and begged God for even more power through the "precious blood of Christ," and an offering of near \$75 was received without any persuasion. Wonderful service, indeed!

We were privileged to have with us during our convention, several minis-

ters and their families from the Dunn District. We were also exceedingly happy to have Sister Odine Morse, one of our missionaries to Haiti, who is at home on furlough.

Truly, we can say that with the help of everyone present, the good program planned by our district overseer and the almighty presence of God, this was a great district convention.—District Convention Reporter, Marie Johnston.

CLEVELAND, Tenn. (Big Springs)—

The Lord is blessing wonderfully and great progress is being made at the Big Springs church. Since Rev. C. M. Newton came to be our pastor in October, we have paid for a heating and cooling system and remodeled the parsonage in part on the inside and completely on the outside. The Sunday School attendance has increased, and interest has been aroused in the Y.P.E. and Willing Workers.—Mildred Maupin, Secretary.

LANETT, Ga.—I love God. I love His Church. I love and appreciate my pastor and his wife, Rev. and Mrs. Kyle Adams. They have their hearts in the Lord's work here. They came last August, when the church was \$700 in debt. The church is now free of debt. Brother Adams, with a little assistance, has painted the auditorium, the choir, and the windows. A nursery and an additional Sunday School room have been added in the basement. A cement walk, connecting the side church door with the street, has been built. Every department of the church is progressing.—Wm. T. Overcash, Reporter.

REVIVALS

ILLINOIS

FAIRFIELD, Ill.—Our state overseer and his wife, Rev. and Mrs. Floyd Timmerman, were the evangelists in our recent revival. The church was blessed with his outstanding Holy-Ghost-anointed messages. Our state has a fine overseer, and we appreciate him. Our pastor is Rev. C. H. Friedley. Our church is working and rejoicing together. The Lord is blessing in many ways, for which we are thankful.—Mrs. W. J. Love, Clerk.

KENTUCKY

SCOVILLE, Ky.—Our church is in a great revival. Brother Fred Allen, of Indiana, is the evangelist. People are attending who have never been to our church before. We thank God for this meeting and are looking forward to a great revival.—Virgie Dooley.

MISSISSIPPI

YAZOO CITY, Miss.—We had a most successful revival, with Rev. and Mrs. C. L. Leonard as the evangelists. Thirteen were saved, 5 sanctified, 3 filled with the Holy Ghost, and 4 added to the church. Brother Leonard brought heart-warming and soul-stirring messages nightly. The entire congregation was blessed with his and Sister Leonard's music and singing. A youth service was presented one night by Sister Leonard, which proved a real inspiration to our services. Brother and Sister Leonard are consecrated to the cause of Christ.—H. P. Ford, Jr., Pastor.

TEXAS

ARANSAS PASS, Texas—On April 18 we broke our all-time record with 123 in Sunday School. The old record was 83. A little over 2 years ago, when we came here, the church doors were closed and only one member was left in Aransas Pass. The first Sunday School had 6 in attendance. A year later the attendance was 79. In this period of time over 70 have been saved and about half of them sanctified and filled with the Holy Ghost. Twenty have been added to the church.—C. Otterson, Pastor.

WEST VIRGINIA

DAVIN, W. Va.—We recently enjoyed a 2 weeks' revival at the Campus Church of God. The evangelist was Sister Beulah Pack, of Mabscott, W. Va. There were 12 saved, 11 sanctified, and 9 baptized with the Holy Ghost. We certainly enjoyed her preaching, and we had a wonderful time in the Lord.—C. G. McCaine, Pastor.

MacARTHUR, W. Va.—We have just had a two weeks' revival, with the Rev. and Mrs. Ray Morgan, of Kingsport, Tennessee, as the evangelists. They proved a great blessing to the church. Twenty-eight were saved, 19 sanctified, and 2 filled with the Holy Ghost. We appreciate our pastor and his wife, Rev. and Mrs. D. H. Eastridge.—Sister Emma Jean Perry.



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